



ANGUS S. KING, JR.
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
MAINE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
16 EDISON DRIVE
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04330

MICHAEL F. KELLY
COMMISSIONER

JAY BRADSHAW
DIRECTOR

Board of EMS Meeting
Maine EMS Conference Room
January 5, 2000
MINUTES

Members Present: Leo Bouchard (Chair-elect), Oden Cassidy, Debbie Dane, John DeFillip, Peter DiPietrantonio, Richard Doughty, William Dunwoody, Paul Knowlton, Steve Leach, Charles Little, Michael Luciano, Penelope Stevens, Rebecca Chagrasulis (ex-officio)

Regional Coordinators: Joanne LeBrun, Jim Caron, Donnie Carroll, Terry Lonchena

Staff: Jay Bradshaw, Dwight Coming, Bill Montejo, Drexell White

Guests: Steve Bennett (Northeast Mobile Health), Tom Judge (LifeFlight of Maine), Toby Martin (Brunswick FD)

1. Introductions were made by those present. Newly appointed members Paul Knowlton (representing Northeast EMS) and Michael Lucinano (representing Tri-County EMS) were welcomed to the Board.

2. Minutes - November 3, 1999

MOTION: To approve the minutes of November 3, 1999, as presented. (Doughty; second by Leach). Carried.

3. Old Business

A. *Investigations Task Force*

Bill Montejo reported that due to a lack of quorum, the Task Force did not meet this morning. Results of the survey regarding investigations were distributed.

Dr. DiPietrantonio suggested that the office send a notice to each person whose license expires alerting them to that status.

Jay reported that MEMS has been in contact with the programmer who wrote the licensing program about updating the program and reports that are available. Cost and funding available for such an update is an obstacle which may delay these improvements.. As work on this project proceeds, reports will be made to the Board.

B. *Rules Revisions*

Jay began by reviewing the rulemaking process to date. In reviewing the comments that were received, the Board has the option of adopting or rejecting the proposed changes, but cannot make changes that would be deemed "substantive" in nature without going back for additional public comment.

For purposes of the minutes, a copy of the comments and Board response is attached.

Section 1

MOTION: To approve Section 1 of the Rules as presented. (Dunwoody; second by Leach). Unanimous.

Section 2

MOTION: To approve Section 2 of the Rules as presented. (Leach; second by Dane). Unanimous.

Section 3

There was discussion about implementing a license fee which would replace the fees currently paid for skills labs. Consensus was that this would represent a substantive change and before proposing such a modification, the Board should have an expanded discussion about what, if any, fees to charge and whether licenses should be tied to service sponsorship as it is now. Further discussion tabled until a later date.

MOTION: To approve Section 3 of the Rules as presented. (Dunwoody; second by Doughty). Unanimous.

Section 4

Several areas were identified as needed more discussion and modification beyond what was listed in the proposed changes. Consensus was to revisit this section and develop modifications based upon the current needs and resources available within Maine's air ambulance system.

MOTION: To approve Section 4 of the Rules with minor changes. (Doughty; second by Stevens). Unanimous.

Sections 5 - 14

MOTION: To approve Sections 5-15 of the Rules as presented. (Little; second by Leach). Unanimous.

Appendix A

MOTION: To approve Appendix A with minor changes. (Dunwoody; second by Little). Unanimous

Appendices B,C,D

MOTION: To approve Appendices B, C, and D as presented. (Dunwoody; second by Little). Unanimous.

Appendix F

MOTION: To approve Appendix F with minor changes. (Dunwoody; second by Dane). Carried with 1 opposed (Stevens).

MOTION: To forward the Rules to the Attorney General's Office for review. If approved by the AG, set an effective date of July 1, 2000, for all rules except those that have a specific date assigned. (Little; second by Stevens). Unanimous.

C. Block Grant Funding Cuts

Jay reported that it is his understanding that the Governor's Office supports the supplemental budget request needed to replace cuts in the Block Grant for FY 01. Although there appears to be an immediate and temporary shortfall of available funds due to the delay in passing a federal budget, DPS is working to make the necessary funds available. No hearing date has been set for the budget request, but when it is known, Jay will disseminate that information.

Jay also noted that the Second Regular Session of the 119th Legislature began this morning. He will be compiling Legislative Update notices as in the past, beginning with the results of a hearing this afternoon on a carry over bill requiring AVOC training for certain ambulance operators.

D. Unfinished Business

None at this time

E. Other

None at this time

4. New Business

A. Operations Team/Committee Action Items

Jay reported on the highlights of the Ops Team meeting that was held the previous day. One of the items of discussion was the concept of an EMS Futures Fund. Terry Lonchena and Donnie Carroll are working on the details of this idea which, if successful, may provide low interest loans, regional funding, and special projects funding. At this point it is only a discussion item and if/when additional details are available a presentation will be made to the Board.

B. Investigations Committee Action Items

Jay reported that there will be a Fair Hearing conducted with Peter Coffey during the Board's February 2, 2000, meeting. Drexell reminded members about *ex parte* communications regarding this matter. Members should not discuss this matter until the Fair Hearing at which time information will be presented by both Maine EMS and Mr. Coffey.

Steve Leach noted that since Geno Murray's term has expired, there is a vacancy for a Board member on the Investigations Committee. Anyone interested in being considered for this position should make that known to Jim McKenney as soon as possible.

C. QA Committee Approvals

Requests for Board approval of QA Committees has been received by Old Town Fire Department and Northeast Harbor Ambulance Service. Staff recommends approval.

MOTION: To approve the Quality Assurance Committee of Old Town Fire Department and Northeast Harbor Ambulance in accordance with 32 MRSA § 92-A. (Doughty; second by Little). Unanimous.

D. Waiver Request - Edington Fire Department

Enclosed with the Board mailing was a summary of a waiver request prepared by Drexell White. The waiver for an alternate means of replacing drug box medications whereby the service would replace medications used through Capital Ambulance, which is the transporting service for Edington. Staff noted that the current system being used by Capital appears to be working well and recommends approval of this waiver request.

MOTION: To approve the waiver request of Edington Fire Department for an alternative method of replacing medications. (Dunwoody; second by Cassidy). Unanimous.

E. Other

Jay reminded the Board that it is necessary to assemble an Awards Committee to plan for the annual awards which will be given during EMS Week (May 14 - 20, 2000). Terry Lonchena and Jim Caron will be representing the Operations

Team. Leo Bouchard offered to participate and asked other Board members to consider assisting. Meetings will be held following the Board meetings for the next few months.

5. Staff Report

A. MEMS

Jay reported that Dwight has been invited to participate in a NHTSA-funded workshop to complete the new EMT-I & P curricula comparison documents. This workshop will take place January 17 - 20, in Denver, CO.

B. MDPB

Dr. Chagrasulis announced that she has sent a letter resigning as state EMS medical director effective April 1, 2000. Jay distributed copies of the position vacancy which were approved by consensus. The goal is to distribute these announcements to Maine ACEP members and through the regional EMS offices, and receive letters of interest no later than January 28, 2000. The letters and resumes will be reviewed by a panel consisting of MDPB members and the EMS Director during February and presented to the Board for action at its March meeting.

C. Other

None at this time

6. Other Business

None at this time

Meeting adjourned 12:35 PM